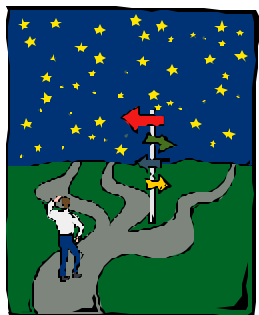


On the Rhode to Independence



Benefits planning is designed to help people who receive disability benefits (SSI or SSDI) make informed decisions regarding employment, based on a complete understanding of their benefits and available work incentives.

DHS does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, age, religion or sex in acceptance for or provision of services, employment or treatment in its educational and other programs and activities. For further information about this policy, contact: the Community Relations Liaison Officer, (401) 462-2130 or TDD (hearing impaired) 462-6239.



**Department of Human Services
Office of Rehabilitation Services
40 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 421-7005 (V)
(401) 421-7016 (TDD)
(401) 272-8090 Spanish
www.ors.state.ri.us**

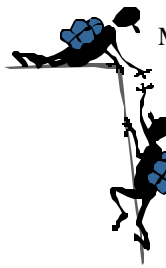
For alternate formats, contact Sharon DiPinto at (401) 421-7005 ext. 318. This publication was made possible by a grant from the Social Security Administration. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not represent the official views of the Social Security Administration.

BENEFITS PLANNING ON THE RHODE TO INDEPENDENCE (BPA&O)



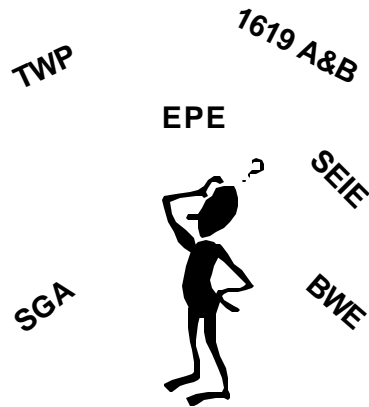
- ◆ **Can I work if I am receiving SSI or SSDI benefits?**
- ◆ **Will I lose my Medicaid and Medicare if I work?**

BENEFITS PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE



Many people mistakenly believe that they cannot work because they are receiving disability benefits from the Social Security Administration. In fact, Social Security encourages people receiving benefits to try work through the provisions of work incentives. Information about these work incentives allows an individual to determine if they can improve their quality of life without irrevocably sacrificing all of their benefits.

WORK INCENTIVES



What do they all mean?

A trained Benefits Specialist will explain how these work incentives work and will help you develop a plan that makes sense for you, as you explore various options.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

The Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS) recently received a grant from the Social Security Administration to insure that Rhode Islanders who receive SSI and/or SSDI on the basis of disability understand their benefits and how work affects those benefits. As part of this grant, ORS has contracted with the Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL) to provide benefits planning, assistance and outreach services.

Call the Jeanne Fay, Benefits Specialist, at 738-1013 (voice) or 738-1015 (TTY) or Pat Vealey at 421-7005 x 405 for information or to schedule an appointment.

Locations of Benefit Specialists

Ocean State Center for Independent Living
1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889
(401) 738-1013 (V), (401) 738-1015 (TTY)

Office of Rehabilitation Services
40 Fountain Street, Providence, RI 02903
(401) 421-7005 x 421 – Susan Shapiro,
BPAO Project Director.